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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
For Administrative Use

MAR 4 1941

NOTE: Compiled from various sources. Not an expression of official opinion.

LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 187

March 1, 1941.

NEW PROMOTIONAL PROGRAM for purpose of improving relations between U.S. and Latin America, through interchange of art and culture, announced by John Hay Whitney, President of Museum of Modern Art which will be center of new program. Whitney speaks before delegates to First International Conference of School of the Air of the Americas. All non-theatrical motion pictures available in U.S. will be catalogued as to possibility of rescoring and titling in Spanish and Portuguese. Travelling art caravans also will be part of new project. Caravan of outstanding examples of American art would visit capitals of various republics. (New York Times).

VARGAS AIDE FLYING TO U.S. One purpose of trip is to consult ear specialist. But many believe that Luiz Vergara, who has been secretary to President Vargas of Brazil since latter came to power in 1930, will confer with Federal officials concerning arrangements for visit of Vargas to U.S. next spring. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

BRAZIL'S ITALIANS PLEDGE FAITH to Mussolini in mass meeting at São Paulo. More than 5,000 said to attend meeting for purpose of re-confirming faith in Il Duce. Comdr. Giuseppe Bendelli, Italian Consul General delivers address in which he asks Brazil's Italians to stick by Mussolini, and assured them that Italy would win war. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

CHILE ASKING FOR U.S. ARMS to protect vital sea lanes as part of hemisphere defense program. Writers says negotiations under way between officials of Chile and U.S. regarding possible arms shipments to Chile for this purpose. Chile said to be asking for "mosquito" torpedo boats, similar to those recently manufactured for U.S. Navy. These would be used to patrol western approaches to Strait of Magellan, Beagle Channel and Cape Horn. At present Chilean Navy has no facilities with which to patrol this vital area. (By Walter Kerr in N.Y. Herald Tribune.)

BARGE TO SEEK LOST PLANE. Search for crew of seven of U.S. Army bomber which crashed into bay near Pacific entrance to Panama Canal, to be continued by Navy barge with derrick. Early stories of parachutes said to have been seen after crash are discounted. Army officials unable to explain accident. Plane had reported 15 minutes before crash. Accident brings total in this vicinity to five for February, with loss of 10 lives. (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

EXILED PERUVIAN WINS NOVEL PRIZE. Ciro Alegría, exiled Peruvian novelist, receives \$2,500 prize in Latin American novel contest for his book, "El mundo es ancho y ajeno" (Broad And Alien Is The World). In last six years Alegria has won two major novel contests, writing in Chile, which now is his home. Contest was sponsored by Division of Intellectual Cooperation of Pan American Union. Prize donated by Farrar & Rinehart. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune)

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 188

March 3, 1941.

AMERICAS WARNED OF POST*WAR ROLE by Nelson Rockefeller in address before First International Conference of the School of the Air of the Americas. American republics must assume responsibility of reconstruction after war, he says. "This time the New World will have the courage to think for itself; will lead the way in solving social and economic problems in a world that will look to this hemisphere for hope and courage to rebuild and go forward." Speaker announces new program of increasing knowledge of school children in U.S. concerning Latin America. (N.Y. Times).

ORTIZ' PHYSICIAN FREED after being held following refusal to testify as to physical ability of Argentine President to return to active leadership of country. Dr. Julio López Lacarrera detained by Congressional committee upon refusal to testify. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

1,500 WAR REFUGEES STRANDED at Dakar, French West African port although most have legal visas to come to North and South American countries, according to report from Brazil. Delay caused by fear that ship would be captured by British. Many members of group said to be suffering from tropical diseases and hunger. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

BRAZIL'S ILLITERACY RATE CUT drastically, according to press reports. Results of census will show more than 50 percent of people can now read or write, while in 1920 report showed that 64.9 percent could neither read nor write. Brazil had 42,000 primary schools in 1940 as compared with 23,000 in 1931. Country had 181 high schools in 1931, now has 673. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

TWO BRAZILIAN DECREES HURT AXIS, writer says. Decree abolishing foreign language newspapers within six months hits Nazi propaganda machine and export license decree has had effects on Japanese plans. Under terms of decree more than 200 items of Brazilian basic products and foreign-manufactured products are subject to export licensing. (By Frank M. Garcia in N.Y. Times).

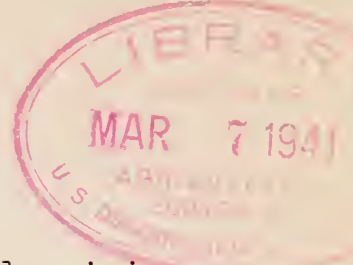
CHILEAN POLLS ORDERLY during Congressional voting, according to press. Army, navy and air force, under agreement between all parties, maintains law and order with little difficulty. Rightists expected to lose some seats in Senate and House but eventual support of Socialists may give them as much power on certain issues as administration. Leftists claim overwhelming victory will reduce Rightists to weak minority. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

NEW LEADER FOR MEXICAN LABOR. Fidel Velásquez, co-founder of Confederation of Mexican Workers, is elected by acclamation to succeed Lombardo Toledano as secretary general of organization. New leader expected to follow more conservative program than predecessor. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune)

SOMOZA BIDS FOES RETURN, President of Nicaragua asks all Nicaraguans living abroad to return if they wish to work for good of country. This means exiles too, he says. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

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March 4, 1941

SOUTH AMERICAN EDUCATORS VISIT CAPITAL. Group of 110 educators and scholars from seven South American countries. Entertained at tea by Mrs. Roosevelt. Spokesman says that group is pleased to note that Good Neighbor Policy has been adopted by private citizens of U.S. and is not just official policy. Students and professors have been studying at University of North Carolina, most taking up work in their own academic fields. Group will meet members of Congressional Committees on Foreign Relations and will be addressed by Vice President Wallace. (Washington Post).

GERMAN SHIP RUNS BLOCKADE TO RIO, taking 31 days from Bordeaux. Captain welcomes press at informal conference in which he states that trip will soon be shorter because war will be over. Cargo of 3,500 tons is general goods and one three-motored plane for commercial use. "While Great Britain must purchase planes somewhere else, Germany can sell them to other countries," he says. (By Frank M. Garcia in N.Y. Times).

SOCIALISTS WIN DECISIVE SEATS in Chilean election. Col. Marmaduke Grove's party wins balance of power in both houses. Conservative parties lose control for first time in history. Demonstration of Communist strength is most important result of election, writer says. (By Walter Kerr in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

CHILEAN SOCIALISTS ASKED TO RESIGN. Three Socialists in Chilean Cabinet asked to resign by Party's Central Committee because of stand on Communist issue. Socialists charge that alliance of Communists and Radicals formed coalition with administration and is undermining government. (Associated Press in N.Y. Times).

CHILE STARTS NEW RAILWAY SERVICE. New fast rail service between Santiago and Osorono has been started by Chilean State Railways, using high-speed Diesel electric trains with only five 3-minute stops along way. (Special to N.Y. Times).

CHILEAN WRITER SURPRISED at U.S. drug stores, where drugs are not primary object for sale. Joaquin Muirhead, visiting U.S. as guest staff member of Washington Post, writes of his reactions in typical U.S. drug store. In Chile, he says, there is a law preventing drug stores from selling anything but medicines. (Washington Post).

REDS IN CUBA ORDERED CENSORED by measure unanimously passed by Cuban Senate. Order would censor Communists for attacks uttered against U.S. in meeting recently held at Manzanillo. Senate asks authorities to prevent such meetings in future. (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

FINES FOR PROFITEERS to be imposed on Nicaraguan druggists who charge excessive prices for medicines, according to Director-General of Public Health. Profits of 150 percent reported in some cases. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

PARAGUAYAN PRESIDENT'S SON to be sent to Warm Springs, Ga. for infantile paralysis treatments as result of personal invitation of President Roosevelt to President Higinio Morinigo. Mrs. Morinigo will accompany son on trip and during stay. (Week By Week)

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 190

March 5, 1941.

DEVELOPMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION throughout the Western Hemisphere is aim of air tourists leaving Washington today. Announcement made by Nelson Rockefeller that tour of Central and South America by Inter-American Escadrille group will be for purpose of gathering information and instilling interest in civil aviation. Committee making trip, which will cover more than 28,000 miles in three months, is headed by Major General Frank R. McCoy, U.S. Army, retired, who is president of Foreign Policy Association and director of Council on Foreign Relations. Others will be Walter Bruce Howe, Alfredo de los Ríos, founder of Inter-American Escadrille, Laurence Rockefeller, Franklin Fields, Escadrille president, William Ladd, and J. M. Farris, Eastern Air Lines pilot. First stop will be Cuba.

99 PERCENT OF LATIN AMERICANS FRIENDLY TO U.S. according to Don Francisco, chief of radio section of Office of Coordination of Commercial and Cultural Relations Between The American Republics, returning from tour of Latin American countries. Says many there were impressed with early victories of Nazis in war but now have become backers of all-out aid to Britain. Rumors of fifth-column activities in South America are greatly exaggerated, he reports. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

LATIN AMERICAN YOUTH WELCOMED by Vice President Henry A. Wallace at Senate. Vice President speaks briefly in Spanish to group of 107 students from seven Latin American countries who have completed special studies at University of North Carolina. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

WAR DEPARTMENT URGES STUDY OF SPANISH by Air Corps officers. Department cannot furnish instructors text books because of lack of funds. Necessity for studying Spanish stressed because of increased travel in Latin American countries by Army officers. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

U.S., MEXICO MAP DEFENSE PLANS, according to State Department report. Military and naval experts from both countries said to be studying mutual defense plans, paralleling arrangement between U.S. and Canada, which will result in defense line from Alaska to Central America. No joint defense board yet set up for U.S.-Mexican agreement. (By Wilfred Fleisher in N.Y. Times).

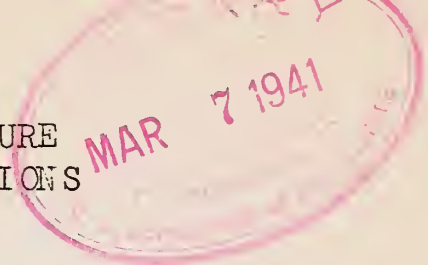
JAMAICA GOVERNOR REPORTS HARMONY in discussions of details of 99-year leases on British West Indies army and navy bases which are to be used by U.S. Back from month-long conferences with U.S. authorities and British officials in London, Sir Arthur Richards says details were ironed out easily. After arriving by Clipper in Puerto Rico, Governor Richards decides to spend few days studying low-rent projects erected there by U.S. government. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

DEFENSE STAFF FLIES TO JAMAICA. Headed by Col. William C. Christy, 10 staff officers of U.S. Caribbean defense command, take off from Puerto Rico for Jamaica where they will familiarize themselves with new territory now commanded from base at Panama. Planes, under command of Lieut. Col. W.S. Gravely of U.S. Army Air Corps, have made stops at all important islands on way from Panama. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 191

March 6, 1941.

DIES WARNS OF SOUTH AMERICAN "INVASION" from within. Tells pressmen in Washington that he has it from "some of most reliable sources in America" that Hitler intends to invade South America from within, and has more than 1 million German inhabitants in South American countries upon whom he can absolutely depend. When impasse in Europe is reached, Chairman of House Committee on Un-American Activities says, Germans in South America will strike and "there will be an overthrow of some of the governments in South America." Asserts that German influence in Mexico, strong until a few months ago, has weakened somewhat. (Associated Press in N.Y. Times).

PAN AMERICAN FOOD FIESTA PLANNED. Sponsored by N.Y. Herald Tribune, Home Institute in New York will hold three-day show and demonstration of uses for various Latin American fruits, vegetables, and groceries. National beverages of various countries to be shown. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

LINDBERGH'S TO VISIT MEXICO. Charles A. Lindbergh and Mrs. Lindbergh expected to spend some time in Mexico at the Morrow home in Cuernavaca. (International News Service in Washington Post).

MITSUI AGENT KILLED IN FALL from hotel window in Mexico City. Reports say fall of Kokichi Suzuki, active representative of Japanese Mitsui interests, was apparently accidental. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

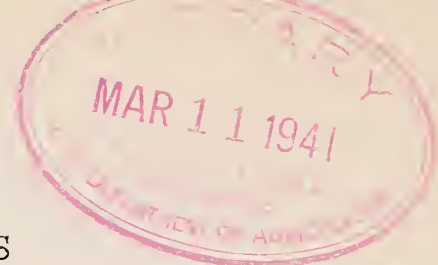
TOUR OF PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS in Nicaragua being made by Señora Enriqueta Garland de Prado, wife of Peruvian President, during visit. President Somoza of Nicaragua declares Señora de Prado and party guests of nation. Especial interest shown in various Nicaraguan public works projects including new highways and port facilities. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

PANAMA GRANTS BASE SITE RIGHTS to U.S. in manifesto signed by President Arnulfo Arias, which elicits wide praise in this country. Manifesto, also signed by Cabinet members, gives U.S. right to erect listening posts, communication centers, searchlight stations and anti-aircraft defense units throughout republic of Panama. Sites will be evacuated at end of European war according to terms of agreement. Army officials believe these additional defense units will make Canal almost impregnable. Secretary Hull and Latin American diplomats hail signing of agreement as "great step forward." (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

LEGION LEADER TO REPORT to national executive committee of American Legion on his findings after making study of war conditions in London. Milo Warner, national commander, reveals in stopover at San Juan, Puerto Rico, that he intends to urge Legion to make "some very specific recommendations" on methods of aiding Great Britain, as result of his findings in England. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

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March 7, 1941.

SUGAR BILL FOUGHT BY SHIPPING GROUP in New York who claim that proposal of Nebraska's Representative Coffee to allocate any unfilled portions of Philippine sugar quota to beet sugar industry rather than to off-shore sources would be distinct blow to hemispheric solidarity efforts and would cause rise in consumer sugar prices. (N.Y. Times)

SHIP DISPATCHING PLAN FORMULATED by U.S. Maritime Commission, according to reports. Under plan, ports of call and cargoes carried would be assigned by special emergency shipping division of Commission, headed by H. Harris Robson, vice president and director of United Fruit Co. Plan said to be set to cope with any emergency although clogging of U.S. and Latin American ports has not yet become problem. (Washington Star).

LATIN AMERICAN VISITORS HOPE FOR UNITY. In interviews with some of 107 students and professors from seven Latin American countries, Joaquín Muirhead, visiting Chilean newspaperman now writing for Washington Post, finds that visit to U.S. has strengthened faith of Latin Americans in U.S. and principles of democracy. Raúl Smith Sánchez, of University of Chile, says: "...in South America now we are thinking that the only solution we have is to form only one bloc, with South, Central and North America..." He claims that exchange of students and teachers will accomplish more than diplomats because diplomats "always have to speak in the official way." (Washington Post).

WIDESPREAD VACCINATION CAMPAIGN under way, according to Science Service, to prepare all U.S. troops in tropics or expected to go to tropics, against tropical diseases. War Department orders yellow fever vaccine for all troops in Panama, Puerto Rico and other Caribbean bases. Preparation of fast-acting vaccine, developed by Rockefeller Foundation's International Health Division, is being handled by U.S. Public Health Service and other laboratories. (Washington News).

ARGENTINE POLITICAL CRISIS ENDING, writer says, with result that Acting President Ramón Castillo, who has been in charge since temporary retirement, because of illness, of President Ortiz, will take reins and fill vacant cabinet posts. Special investigation of state of health of President Ortiz expected to show that, although he is improved, he is not well enough to return to post. (By Herbert M. Clark in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

RAIDER BATTLE OFF CHILE REPORTED. Thunder of cannon late yesterday reported by lighthouse keeper of Dungeness Point to Naval Command at Punta Arenas. Officials believe British ships, patrolling far south in Atlantic, may have encountered Nazi raider. Some theorize that Nazis have been planning attack on Falkland islands nearby. No German warships have been reported previously in this region. (Washington Times-Herald).

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 193

March 8, 1941

MERCHANT MARINE COMMISSION for Brazil is created by decree signed by President Vargas. It will be autonomous body, empowered to control all Brazilian shipping facilities, both private and government. Among first problems to be studied by commission will be status of foreign ships in Brazilian harbors. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

FALSE BRAZILIAN PASSPORT got former King Carol II of Rumania and Mme. Lupescu into Portugal, press reports say. Mme. Lupescu said to have engineered escape. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

CHILEAN TENDENCY TOWARD LEFT, as President Aguirre C. decides to keep Socialists in cabinet despite moves to have them resign. It is questionable whether Socialists will stand firm under any circumstances calling for cooperation with Communists. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

COSTA RICAN UNIVERSITY REOPENS after being closed for several years. University was established in 1844. President Calderón presides at ceremony which is attended by rectors of universities in various other Central American countries. (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

INTER-AMERICAN ESCADRILLE REACHES CUBA on good-will flight, headed by Major Gen. Frank R. McCoy, U.S. Army, retired. Group, which is promoting civil aviation in Latin America, will spend several days in Cuba and then go to Haiti. (Associated Press in Washington Star).

CUBAN NAVY CHIEF QUIT POST. Lieut. Col. Jesús Gómez Casas, Chief of Cuban Navy, resigns after brief tenure of office to which he was appointed by President Batista to replace Col. Angel González who took part in alleged attempt to overthrow government recently. (United Press in N.Y. Times).

MEXICAN BASES ARE FOR ALL NATIONS in Western Hemisphere, Foreign Minister Padilla informs Mexican Senate. Says that Mexico will help any American nation which might be in danger of attack. Mexico plans wide expansion of military and naval power, minister states. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

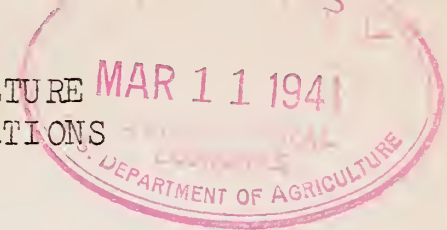
SMALL AIRLINE IN PERUVIAN TOWN is being encouraged, unofficially, by U.S., writer says. Line, operated by Hugh Wells, U.S. citizen, said to be important because of fact that Iquitos, Peruvian headquarters of airline, is situated in excellent spot to defend possible air attack on Panama Canal from Amazon area. Iquitos provides good base for seaplanes. (By Devon Francis in Washington Star).

ESCALANTE SEEN AS NEXT PRESIDENT of Venezuela, by exports. Venezuelan Ambassador to U.S. placed in favored position by refusal of President Lopez Contreras to run again. Other outstanding candidate is Minister of War, Gen. Isaias Medina. Election to be held last of April. (By Leon Pearson in Washington Times-Herald).

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 194

March 10, 1941

WALLACE PIONEERS NEW PAN AMERICANISM, according to Dr. Francisco Castillo Nájera, Mexican Ambassador to U.S. He bestows title of "Unofficial Ambassador" to Latin America, on Vice President at banquet of "Little Congress," organization of Congressional secretaries in Washington. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

BRITONS IN ARGENTINA AID FUND for Great Britain. Sir Christopher Gibson of Buenos Aires says that there are 50,000 Englishmen in Argentina and 99 percent of them are contributing regularly to British aid fund. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

UPSURGE IN POWER OF COMMUNISTS seen in results of Chilean election. Party grows from 17,162 four years ago to 55,000 votes. Communists receive less support than Socialists but because of alliance with Radical party Communists elect 3 senators and 17 deputies against 2 senators and 15 deputies for Socialists. (Walter Kerr in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

CHILE RATIONS CEMENT as shortage threatens public works and buildings. Many projects must be abandoned unless more cement is received from abroad soon, sources say. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

NEW CUBAN NAVY CHIEF is appointed by President Batista. Col. Julio Diez Argüelles succeeds Col. Jesús Gómez Casas who resigned recently. Col. Argüelles is former aide to President Batista. Was raised in rank in order to take over new position, (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

ECUADOR, COSTA RICA O.K. "GREAT DICTATOR." Despite objections by German and Italian legations, Ecuadorean and Costa Rican officials have decided to allow showing of Charlie Chaplin which makes fun of totalitarians. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

MAVERICK MAY HEAD COMMISSION to administrate defense agreement between U.S. and Mexico, according to writer. Talks continue between U.S. and Mexican officials on details of defense pact similar to that between U.S. and Canada. Maury Maverick mentioned as likely head of commission. Defense agreement probably will pave way for solution of economic problems. (James C. Simonds in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

ARCHDUKE OTTO VISITS MEXICO. Pretender to Austrian throne, traveling incognito, believed to be considering Mexico as future home. (United Press in N.Y. Times).

NICARAGUA'S HYGIENE INSPECTOR DIES. Dr. Gilberto Pérez Alondo, 57 years of age, had been cited by government for his work in cleaning up Mangua after earthquake in 1931. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

SECRETARY KNOX LEAVES PUERTO RICO. Two oceans but only one front is naval policy of U.S., Secretary tells press. Has spent some time inspecting new Vieques Sound area where new base will be built. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times)

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 195

March 11, 1941.

FARLEY URGES "BUY IN AMERICAS" on return from South American trip. Former Postmaster General says "...From the practical point of view we should buy more from them; we should buy Argentine beef. If we improve their purchasing power they will buy more from us. They have a real feeling for the United States and there is a definite feeling of solidarity with the United States...I am satisfied that the people in South America will follow the lead of the President." (N.Y. Times).

DECISIVE POLITICAL WEEK AHEAD for Argentina. Senate Committee due to publish findings on health of ailing President Ortiz. Views expressed in report have been gained through interviews with President's physicians. Interest also running high in the filling of cabinet vacancies which Acting President Castillo has promised for Thursday. Observers see situation clearing. Believe Castillo will remain in direct power for some time but that President Ortiz does intend to return to office as soon as possible. (N.Y. Herald Tribune Bureau).

CHILEANS DISTURBED BY BILL PASSAGE. Passage of the Lease-Lend Bill brings comment in editorial column of "Mercurio" in Santiago. Editorial points out that passage of bill may cause Axis powers to force Japan into conflict with U.S. and that such action would bring war to this hemisphere. Chilean writers say this would be especially dangerous since Chile is an important sea power in the South Pacific, has a long coastline and many strategic islands. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

MEXICO CONSIDERS MILITARY MISSION to collaborate, on permanent basis, with U.S. military, naval and aviation authorities. Source in Mexican National Defense Ministry says that military, naval and aviation attachés in Washington now probably would form nucleus of new group. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

CARDINAL RETURNS FROM PERU. Dennis Cardinal Dougherty, Archbishop of Philadelphia, returns from trip through Peru and neighboring countries. During trip 73-year-old prelate took first plane ride. Finds natives of South American countries, "very friendly" to U.S. (N.Y. Times).

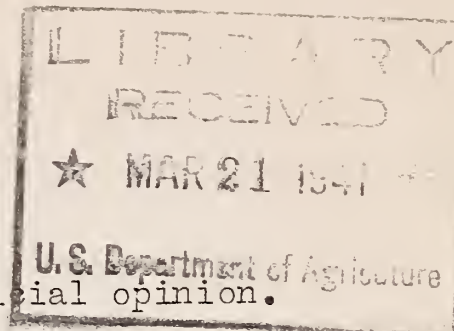
U.S. MINISTER RETURNS FROM ECUADOR. Boaz Long, who has been U.S. Minister to Ecuador for past three years, arrives in New York for conferences with U.S. authorities and for short vacation. (N.Y. Times).

PUERTO RICAN HEARING OPENED by Roxford Guy Tugwell, commissioned to preside by Secretary Ickes. Hearing revolves around "500-acre law," which limits corporate holdings of sugar-producing land to 500 acres. Redistribution of lands held in excess of 500 acres will be carried out according to established policy, Secretary says. Luis Muñoz Marín, newly-elected President of Puerto Rican Senate, is expected to make strong bid for strict enforcement of the law. (Special to N.Y. Times).

16 NAZIS ACCUSED IN URUGUAY. Newspaper, "El País," names 16 Germans, including several women, who, it charges, have entered Uruguay clandestinely during past weeks after having been expelled from Swift & Co. packing plant in Rio Grande do Sul in Brazil. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

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March 12, 1941

EXCHANGE STUDENTS HONORED at luncheons in New York. Twenty-five students and professors from Peru, members of group from seven Latin American countries which has just completed special study course at University of North Carolina, are entertained at luncheon given by Peruvian-American Association. Twenty-two others, all from Brazil, are guests of American-Brazilian Association. Dr. Oscar Correia, Brazilian Consul General in New York, hails student-professor exchange plan as one of finest examples of cultural improvement for hemisphere. (N.Y. Times).

AMBASSADORS AND MINISTERS TO BE GUESTS of honor at Pan American Ball sponsored by District of Columbia American Legion Women's Auxiliary next Saturday. Special honors to be conferred upon Latin American representatives. (Washington Star).

ARGENTINE GOLD RESERVE RATIO to notes in circulation declines from 110.49 percent on Feb. 15 to 109.15 percent on Feb. 28, according to report of Argentine Information Bureau in New York. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

COSTA RICAN REDS BACK BROWDER. Leftist groups in Costa Rica, led by Communist weekly, Trabajo, plan protest demonstration against imprisonment of Earl Browder, U.S. Communist leader. Organizations to send petition, favoring Browder, through U.S. Legation. Trabajo charges that Martin Dies and others framed Browder and railroaded him to penitentiary on false evidence. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

FOREIGNERS RESIDING ILLEGALLY IN MEXICO to be checked by Ministry of Interior according to announcement. Watch at border will be tightened. Governors and mayors will check credentials of all foreigners residing under their direct jurisdiction. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

MEXICO TO GROW RUBBER. Ministry of Agriculture announces agreement with U.S. Department of Agriculture under terms of which large-scale experiments in rubber cultivation will be carried out. U.S. to provide suitable seedlings and technical personnel while Mexico supplies land and maintenance personnel. U.S. specialists have been exploring Mexico for some time seeking suitable rubber-growing areas. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

GOLD CONCESSION IN NICARAGUA granted to American company, Coco Mines, Ltd., of Wilmington, Del. Concession is for right to work gold properties near Coco River in Northeastern Nicaragua. Company agrees to spend certain amount in development and to sell percentage of gold to government. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

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No. 197

March 13, 1941.

LATIN AMERICAN TRADE REPORTS VARY according to announcement by Department of Commerce. Comments include BRAZIL: Continued high domestic sales surprise experts. Growing domestic market and crop loans possible reasons. Next coffee crop expected to be small because of drought; CUBA: Business momentum up during February but outlook still obscure; ECUADOR: Higher quotations for cacao and firm or gaining prices for other agricultural products brighten view; EL SALVADOR: Inter-American Coffee Agreement tends to dispel pessimism to some extent but unprofitable year expected; HONDURAS: Banana shipments down, coffee shipments up, gold and silver exports maintained; HAITI: Business low. Disposal of coffee surplus more pressing than ever; MEXICO: Business at same level as January but no gains reported; PANAMA: Business lags awaiting carnival opening but luxury articles sell well; URUGUAY: February is normal business month. December exports were largest in any month in recent years; VENEZUELA: Imports decline sharply during February but recovery expected soon. (Special to N.Y. Times).

COORDINATOR'S OFFICE EXPANDING. Nelson A. Rockefeller announces appointment of Carl B. Spaeth as Assistant Coordinator. One of reasons for appointment is rapid expansion of duties and personnel in office. Spaeth has been General Counsel and Executive Assistant to Coordinator since August, 1940. He will be replaced by John Edwards Lockwood as General Counsel.

SENORA DAVILA DIES IN CHILE. Señora Herminia Arrate Dávila, wife of Carlos G. Dávila, former Chilean president and former Chilean ambassador to U.S., dies after long illness. She was taken to her home from New York in December by special U.S. Army "flying fortress" placed at her disposal by President Roosevelt. (Special Cable to N.Y. Herald Tribune).

HAVANA IS REFUGEE "WAITING ROOM," according to passengers on Spanish liner arriving in New York. Of 181 passengers, 150 are Jewish refugees. Many have waited six months to three years for quota visas to live in U.S. permanently. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

CUBAN SENATE APPROVES BILL authorizing National Sugar Institute to obtain financing loan from U.S. Export-Import Bank for surplus production of 400,000 tons of sugar. Bill approved "in totality." (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

U.S. PILOTS TO TEACH ECUADOREANS. Two U.S. Army planes arrive at Guayaquil with 14 U.S. pilot instructors who will hold classes for Ecuadorean flyers. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

GERMAN GOODS AT NICARAGUA. Large quantity of drugs and chemicals sent by parcel post four months after orders were placed. Agents taking orders now for four-months' delivery. Prices said to be lower than before war. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

PANAMA FIXES ENVOYS' SALARIES. Pay of Ambassador to U.S. set at \$12,000 per year with \$7,800 for expenses. Costa Rican envoy will receive \$9,000 per year. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
For Administrative Use

MAR 17 1941

NOTE: Compiled from various sources. Not an expression of official opinion.

LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 198

March 14, 1941.

MORE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR LATIN AMERICANS is result of success of special six-week session at University of North Carolina for 107 Latin American students and professors. Trustees of the university have announced six new scholarships; two at Chapel Hill unit, two at North Carolina State College and two at State College for Women. (The Pan American).

PERMIT TO BUY ARGENTINE BEEF refused Navy and Budget Bureau by House Appropriations Committee. Publication of committee hearings on naval appropriation bill show that request to have ban on Navy purchase of foreign foodstuffs, which cannot be purchased domestically, lifted, was refused. Committee spokesman says ban was inserted in bill several years ago to protect American farmer. Says protection now is more important than ever. (Washington Star).

ARGENTINE POSTS FILLED as promised by Acting President Castillo. Appointments draw contending factions closer together, experts believe. Enrique Ruíz Guinazú, Argentine Ambassador to Vatican, is named new Foreign Minister and Carlos Alberto Acevedo is appointed Finance Minister. Many believe that these appointments, filling vacancies in cabinet, will help smooth way for return of President Ortiz, who has been inactive for some time because of ill health. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

BRAZIL RATIFIES HAVANA ACT. President Getulio Vargas ratifies convention authorizing provisional administration of menaced European possessions in Western Hemisphere, measure that was approved at Pan American Conference of Foreign Ministers last July. Other nations studying act. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

BRAZILIAN PAPER MILL PLANS COMPLETED. Plans for new modern paper mill at Parana, Brazil's pine state, with Brazilian capital and U.S. machinery, have been completed, official sources say. Company will take care of 70 percent of Brazil's pulp requirements and will make various grades of papers, including newsprint. Project has been under study for some time. (Brazil Today).

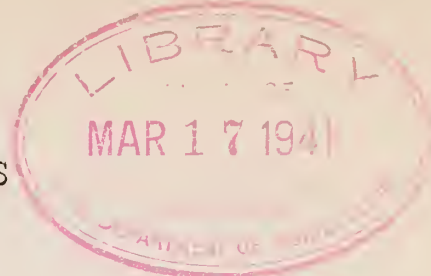
CUBAN ARMY CHIEF RESIGNS. Col. Manuel Lopez Migoya, Chief of Staff of Cuban Army, said to have resigned but no reasons for step are given. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

SMALL PLOTS CREATE WASTE in planting of sugarcane, Attorney Antonio Soltero, testifying before Tugwell investigating committee in San Juan, Puerto Rico, says, substantiating claims of large sugar companies that application of 500-acre limit to corporation holdings would result in wide wastage of land. Soltero claims that no plots less than 100 acres in size should be placed in production. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 199

March 15, 1941.

CULTURAL FILMS PROGRAM ANNOUNCED by Nelson A. Rockefeller as part of plan to draw Americas closer together. Distribution of non-theatrical films for showing before cultural groups in Latin American countries will be undertaken by Film Library Inc., of Museum of Modern Art in New York. State Department is cooperating in project, Rockefeller says. Kenneth Macgowan, associate producer for Twentieth Century-Fox Films in Hollywood, will be director of program and will take indefinite leave to work in New York. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

"DIVERSE ENTITIES" OF LATIN AMERICA must be recognized before proper development of inter-American relations can be achieved, Miss Irene A. Wright of State Department Division of Cultural Relations tells meeting of Rhode Island Avenue Citizens' Association. "Our aim," she says, "is not simply a matter of striving to reconcile one culture with another, but rather reconciling our culture with those of 18 different countries." (Washington Star).

ANTARCTIC BOUNDARY DISCUSSION to be opened by representatives of Chile and Argentina in accordance with agreement reached last year after Chile had announced claim to important sector. (N.Y. Times).

CHILEAN POLITICS UPSET by attempt made by Liberal Party to nullify recent elections of Communist Deputies and Senators. Liberals throughout nation make simultaneous presentations to ask withdrawal of Communists. Success of efforts would mean drastic change in balance of power. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

CHILE MAY GIVE BOLIVIA ARICA. Arica is Bolivia's logical and only practical exit to sea. Matter said to have been principal reason for recent visit of Foreign Minister Manuel Bianchi to Peru and Bolivia. Bianchi said to have reported that Bolivia should receive Arica port and strip of land adjoining 300-mile railway from coast to La Paz, Bolivia's capital. (Allen Haden in Washington Star).

LOPEZ MIGOYA KEEPS POST as Chief of Staff of Cuban Army. President Batista officially denies rumor that Col. López Migoya had resigned. (United Press in N.Y. Times).

EXPANSION OF TAMPICO AIRPORT asked by Pan American airways, acting on U.S. Army Air Force specifications. Request placed with Mexican Communications Ministry. Lengthened runways and larger fuel storage space included in request. Similar request under consideration for airports at Vera Cruz and Tapachula, it is said. (Associated Press in Washington Star).

BAN ON FOREIGN CAPITAL is renewed in Mexican oil proposal, sources say. Surprise is shown by business leaders when it is revealed that clause permitting foreign companies to re-invest in Mexican oil enterprises had been deleted in modification of proposal. Change believed made under pressure from Leftists. (United Press in N.Y. Times).

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 200

March 17, 1941.

LATIN AMERICAN AMITY HAILED as keynote of Oberlin College inter-collegiate Pan American Congress. Senator Burton of Ohio, Dr. L.S. Rowe of Pan American Union, and Dr. Charles A. Thompson of State Department's Cultural Relations Division, speak to group by radio from Washington. On campus, students are addressed by Guy C. Hickok, of National Defense Commission, on "The Relationship of the Western Hemisphere to the Rest of the World." (Special to N.Y. Times).

ROCKEFELLER NAMES NEW AIDES. Nelson A. Rockefeller, Coordinator of Commercial and Cultural Relations Between The Americas, announces appointments of John S. Dickey, Edward H. Robbins, and Francis A. Jamieson, to posts of special assistants to the Coordinator. Mr. Dickey, in charge of liaison for the office and Mr. Jamieson, in charge of public education and information, will retain present jobs besides taking on new duties. Mr. Robbins has resigned as executive of two Venezuelan companies in order to devote himself to new work. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

FEAR OF SHIPPING SHORTAGE which might reduce possibility of increasing trade between U.S. and Latin America, is expressed by members of National Research Council upon departure by plane from Miami for tour of South American nations. Twenty-one industrialists, bankers and research engineers in party decide to devote major attention to shipping problems in Colombia, Chile, Argentina and Brazil. (By Chas. Egan in N.Y. Times).

TO SPUR TRADE WITH LATIN AMERICA, is purpose of trip undertaken by Joseph A. Medernach, manager of Trade Development Bureau of Moore McCormack Lines. Unit has been organized to encourage trade between the Americas. Mr. Medernach will visit East coast ports during two-month tour. (N.Y. Times).

CULTURAL STUDY OF U.S. is being made by Señora Aimee de Ramos Mejía, Argentine journalist. Tells interviewer she believes more women should travel here and in South America for purpose of becoming acquainted with customs and characteristics of their neighbors. Sra. de Ramos Mejía admires "great composure" of U.S. women. "I think we of the Latin temperament will never achieve that calmness, for we do even little things with all our soul," she says. (By Emma Bugbee in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

FASHION BATTLE LOOMS IN SOUTH AMERICA, with Nazis, backing Paris designers, and British, as combatants. British sending group of mannequins and originals of new styles to Rio de Janeiro for special showing. Nazis announce similar plans. British will not send copies from England but will stimulate manufacture in Brazil of garments from British goods. (N.Y. Times).

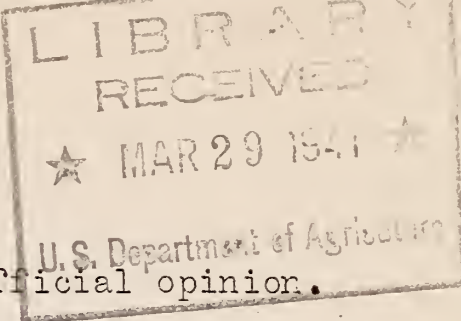
GERMAN FREIGHTER SET FOR DASH through British blockade. Ship, Norderney, is fully loaded in Para harbor with 72,000 hides and 500 tons of rubber. Fourteen Germans leave Rio for Para to board freighter. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

COLLABORATION WITH U.S. studied by Mexican Army officials. Sources close to Defense Ministry say plans are being laid to improve and expand Mexican Army, to about 75,000 active troops. Changes also would be made in tactics and organization. (Associated Press in N.Y. Times).

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 201

March 18, 1941.

SHIPPERS HERE OPPOSE SUGAR CUT which would result from proposed legislation. Maritime Association of Port of New York forwards statement to President Roosevelt, Secretary of Agriculture Wickard, Secretary of State Hull and Senate finance committee opposing bill which would provide that any unused portion of Philippine sugar quota would be divided among domestic producers rather than off-shore areas. Shippers claim reduction in amount of sugar coming into New York would have serious effect on shipping business. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

NEW ARGENTINE FINANCE CHIEF, Carlos Acevedo, takes oath of office, replacing Federico Pinedo who resigned in January. Observers believe split between parties may be healing. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

'TOBACCO ROAD' IN ARGENTINA. Movie version of famous play draws huge crowds in Buenos Aires. Movie has been adapted to Spanish by José Arrieta, well known journalist. (The Hemisphere).

BRAZIL BUYS MORE FROM U.S. For first time in history Brazil last year bought more goods from U.S. than she sold to this country, according to announcement by Ministry of Finance. Imports from U.S. totaled \$129,000,000 as compared with \$84,000,000 in 1939. Brazil sold coffee and other products worth \$105,000,000 to U.S. as compared with \$101,000,000 the previous year. (Associated Press in N.Y. Times).

CHILE ORDERS 25 TRAINING PLANES from Fairchild corporation. New U.S. planes, of same type used by Army and in civilian pilot training program, will replace "various European" planes used for some time by Chile. Shipment to begin immediately. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

CUBAN CONGRESS OPENS REGULAR SESSION, with President Batista stressing need for settlement of economic problems. Opening of regular session ends special session called by President, during which legislation asked by him was not approved. Problems facing new session include increased taxation and authorization for negotiation to obtain financing loan for sugar surplus from U.S. Export-Import Bank. (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

HEARST TALKS WITH CAMACHO. Cordial conversation between Mexico's President Avila Camacho and William Randolph Hearst, newspaper tycoon and owner of large acreage in Mexico, is said to reveal new attitude of Mexican administration toward U.S. capital. Hearst is known to have long opposed Mexican land expropriation program. (The Hemisphere).

RAYON DEAL UNDER CONSIDERATION between Mexican rayon control agency and Japan. Said to involve no intergovernmental agreement. Mexican group claims it must go to Japan for 6,500,000 pounds of rayon because of termination of barter deal with Italy and because American rayon is too high in price. (Washington Post).

ROOSEVELT'S STAND PRAISED in Nicaragua, where papers say that President's speech Saturday night "signed death sentence" of Nazis. President speaks in a language the dictators understand, press says. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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MAR 21 1941

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 202

March 19, 1941.

PAN AMERICAN MUSIC DIVISION, established by Pan American Union, will function as a clearing house for information regarding music of the 21 American Republics. Among first projects is the publication of a series of reports on music of the American Republics. Services of the Division will be available to all individuals. (Pan American Union Press News)

TRADE GAINS URGED TO LINK AMERICAS, by John B. Glenn, President of the Pan American Trust Company of New York City and former President of the Mexican Chamber of Commerce, at the Oberlin College inter-collegiate Pan American Congress. Dr. Richard Pattee of the Division of Cultural Relations of the State Department, Senora Ramos Mejia, Argentine journalist, and Dr. Ernest Galaraza, Chief of the Labor Division of the Pan American Union also participated in the program to encourage Latin-American amity at the Congress. (Special to New York Times)

DEADLY MOSQUITO WIPED OUT IN BRAZIL, according to a report by Dr. Raymond B. Fosdick, President of the Rockefeller Foundation. Spread of the *Anopheles gambiae* mosquito, malaria-carrying insect native of Africa, has been halted after a ten-year campaign. In collaboration with the Brazilian Government, preparation of more than a million doses of yellow fever vaccine for the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, U. S. Army, and U. S. Public Health Service, was reported by Dr. Fosdick. (New York Times)

LAWYER FAVORED FOR CHILEAN CABINET. Luis Alamos Barros, lawyer and one-time President of the Radical party and a former Minister of Public Works, is reported to be favored for the Foreign Ministry, in view of the appointment of present Foreign Minister, Manuel Bianchi, as Ambassador to London. (Special cable to New York Times)

CUBAN PESO ADVANCES TO NEW HIGH. The Cuban peso continued its sharp advance to 95¢, a new high for the year. Seasonal movement of Cuban sugar to the United States is said to be playing an important part in this sharp advance. (New York Times)

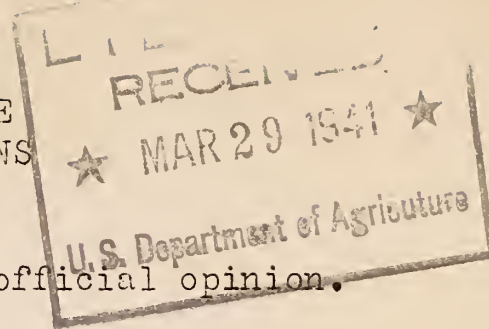
MEXICAN BOOM REPORTED by George A. Mohlman, Vice President of the Package Machinery Company. Development of strong anti-Nazi feeling and a loss of foreign markets are forcing Mexican business to look to the United States for supplies, Mr. Mohlman declared. (New York Times)

MEXICAN PRESIDENT'S BROTHER arrives in U. S. General Maximo Avila Camacho, brother of President Manuel Avila Camacho of Mexico, and Gustavo Padres, Jr., Mexican Vice-Consul, arrive in United States for visit to New York and Washington. (Special to New York Herald Tribune)

U. S. PICKS LIMA DELEGATES. The State Department announced the appointment of a 12-man delegation to represent the United States at the third general assembly of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History, opening at Lima, Peru, March 30. (New York Herald Tribune)

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 203

March 20, 1941.

PAN AMERICAN FOOD FIESTA draws large crowds in New York. Sponsored by New York Herald Tribune Home Institute, showing and demonstration of many Latin American delicacies is witnessed with interest by U.S. housewives. John J. Clisham, executive secretary of Pan American Society, speaks on "How Much Do You Know About Pan America?" Show is stolen by appearance of ten-pound, quick-frozen, already-roasted rib of beef from Argentina. Experts demonstrate method used to defrost this meat and serve. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

CHILEAN DECREE BARS ALIENS from service with radio stations in country. Also prohibits Chilean stations from receiving subsidies from foreign government or institutions. All announcers and technicians must be Chileans, order states. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

3 DANISH SHIPS IN CHILE, recently taken over by Chilean government for trade between Chile and Great Britain, will not be used for that purpose, according to government announcement. Ships will be used exclusively in Chilean coastal trade under direct supervision of Chilean navy. Expressed feelings of German officials and trouble over arranging for insurance of vessels led government to change plan. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

DRIVE AGAINST REDS IN CHILE shunned by Radical leader, Guillermo Labarca, former Minister of Interior and President of Radical Party. Says he will work for unification of Leftist parties to assure necessary majority for President Pedro Aguirre in new Congress opening May 21. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

LATIN AMERICAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE plan, sponsored by National Research Council group now touring Latin America, to be proposed to Colombia today. Plan would link South American resources with U.S. technological skill for mutual benefit, it is said. Under proposed plan, unbiased advice on marketing, technical and scientific problems, would be furnished to individual countries. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

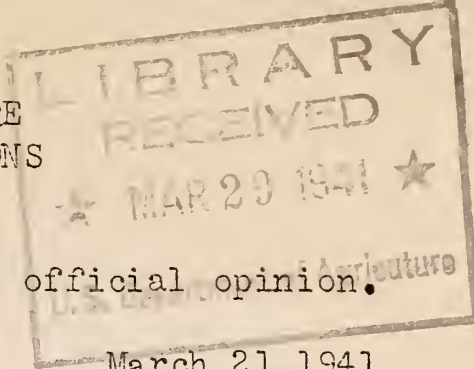
GUARDS REINFORCED AROUND U.S. EMBASSY in Mexico City as police smash allegedly Nazi-inspired, anti-U.S. demonstration at Mexican Foreign Office. Five hundred students from University of Mexico said to have taken part in rock-throwing, insult-hurling display against pro-American policy of administration. Police disperse mob with tear gas and Fire Department helps with cold water. (I.N.S. in Washington Post).

NICARAGUA FACES OIL SHORTAGE because of difficulty in arranging shipments from U.S. Present supply of oil for public utilities and railroads only sufficient for one month, officials say. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

NATIONALISTS DROPPED FROM CABINET in Uruguay, bringing tense political situation. President Alfredo Baldomir turns duties of vacated posts over to other cabinet members. What follows is up to Nationalists, observers say. (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 204

March 21, 1941

ARGENTINE BEEF PURCHASE DENIED NAVY, as tie vote in Senate kills proposal to remove ban on buying of foreign meat from Naval appropriation bill. Presence of Vice President Wallace, who was absent at time of voting, would have meant victory for proposal, writer says, for Vice President could have broken tie vote and undoubtedly would have voted to remove ban. (By John B. Oakes in Washington Post).

LATIN AMERICAN NATIONS SEEK ARMS under terms of lend-lease act on same basis as Great Britain, General George C. Marshall tells press. Mentions especially negotiations under way between U.S. and Brazil with regard to arms and ammunition. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

ANGLO-CHILEAN NET PROFIT UP for 1940, according to report by President Medley G.B. Whelpley. Statistics of report of Anglo-Chilean Nitrate Corp. show net profit of £664,006 sterling for 1940 fiscal year, as compared with £470,681 sterling for previous year. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

NAZI ENVOY VISITS CHILE. Ernst Windler, German Minister to Bolivia, is in Chile several days before official circles hear of coming. Had been visiting southern cities with large German populations. Speculation arises when it is learned that Baron Edmund von Thermann, German Ambassador to Argentina, also is in Chile on "rest trip." (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

CUBAN PESO REACHES NEW HIGH. Cuban peso is quoted at 95 cents, highest mark reached in two years. Improvement of money is reflection of higher sugar prices. Expectation of new \$12,000,000 loan from U.S., also may have something to do with increase, experts say. (United Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

ECUADOR LISTS LICENSED IMPORTS. Import Control Board publishes list of 40 articles for which licenses will be granted with 20 percent customs surcharge. Automobiles, excepting trucks, are included. Other classifications are liquors, except champagne, manufactures of iron and steel, soaps, preserves and confectionery. Exceptions are made for radios costing not more than \$50 and for refrigerators costing not more than \$100. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

MEXICAN MINISTER CONFERS WITH LAGUARDIA. Eduardo Suarez, Mexican Finance Minister, confers briefly with Mayor LaGuardia of New York City. Nature of talk is not disclosed but officials say it is a "courtesy call." (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

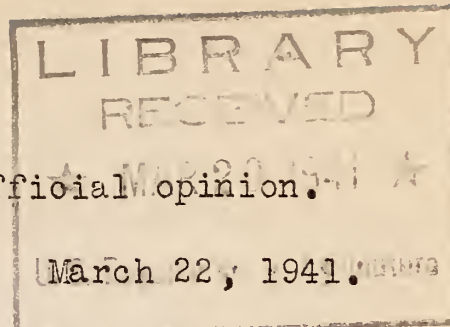
U.S. FIRMS CHANGE AGENTS in Nicaragua. U.S. organizations have begun discharging representatives who are known to be pro-Nazis, Communists, or Fascists. Government has list of known anti-democratic agents and all are being watched. (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

CONVERSION OF PANAMA CANAL from high-level lock "trough" to sea level canal is proposed in joint resolution introduced in House by Representative Mansfield of Texas, chairman of Rivers and Harbors Committee. Change would make Canal invulnerable, he says. Cost would be about \$1,000,000,000. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 205

March 22, 1941

PAN AMERICANISM A PATRIOTIC DUTY, says Dr. Leo S. Rowe, Director General of the Pan American Union in addressing school and library officials at Washington. Dr. Ernesto Galarza, Chief of the Union's Labor and Social Information Division, suggests that schools form committees to help spread Latin American data. (Washington Post).

AMERICAN HEMISPHERE FEARS NOTHING, says Dr. Luis Quintanilla, Mexican Minister, at function honoring Vice President Wallace. (Washington Post).

ARGENTINE MEAT MEASURE NOT DEFEATED. Senator Richard B. Russell had voted for proposal to permit Navy purchases of Argentine canned beef, it is revealed. Through clerical error, this vote was not recorded. Therefore, approval is expected to go through on Monday, thus sending bill to conference. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

ARGENTINE EXPORT CORPORATION to be set up with cooperation of Government and chief United States firms operating in Argentina. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune).

ARGENTINE ARMY BOMBER CRASHES in flight between Buenos Aires and Villa Mercedes, San Luis Province. Six military aviators are killed. (Associated Press in Washington Post).

GERMAN FREIGHTER LOADS AT RIO. 70,000 bags of coffee, 30,000 green hides, food-stuffs, lard and bran are taken aboard by 3,290-ton German freighter Lech. Vessel will try to elude British blockade. (Cable to N.Y. Herald Tribune).

DANES REQUEST CHILEANS RETURN SHIPS. Danish chargé d'affaires, Theodore Wessel, asks Chilean authorities to cancel decree taking possession of 3 Danish vessels. (Cable to N.Y. Times).

GERMANY'S AMBASSADORS IN SOUTH AMERICA MEET IN CHILE. German envoys to Argentina, Bolivia, Chile and Peru meet at Santiago for parleys. (Cable to N.Y. Times).

ECUADOR TO BUILD ROAD. Awards contract to Ambursen Engineering Corporation for 280-mile road, costing \$900,000. One section of the road will connect with Pan American highway in Peru. Export-Import Bank will finance work. (United Press in N.Y. Times).

MEXICO MAY SEIZE SHIPS belonging to Axis powers. These would be made part of national merchant marine for hemisphere trade. (Associated Press in N.Y. Herald Tribune and N.Y. Times).

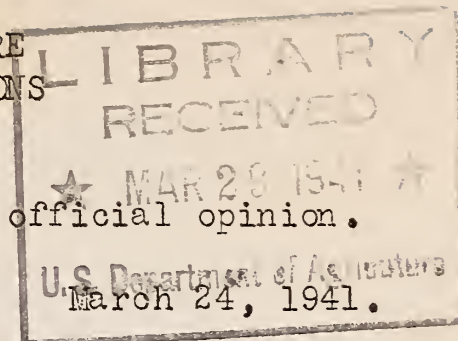
MEXICAN RAILWAYS NEED FUNDS, says General Enrique Estrada, General Manager. 2,000,000 pesos are required for new equipment, official tells Senate Committee. (Associated Press in N.Y. Times).

FOREIGN CAPITAL TO PARTICIPATE IN MEXICAN OIL operations. Chamber of Deputies unanimously defeats effort to bar foreign participation. (Associated Press in N.Y. Times).

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 206

LATIN AMERICAN CITY PLANNED for New York's Sixth Avenue. As gesture of "good neighborliness," V. Clement Jenkins, president of Sixth Avenue Association, announces plans for construction of \$50,000,000 "city," architecturally characteristic of Latin American countries, on thirteen blocks along Sixth Avenue from 36th Street to Rockefeller Center. "City" would feature trading section which would promote sales of Latin American products and enable dealers to carry out large-scale displays. Plan is to rename Sixth Avenue, "Avenue of the Americas." (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

COLUMBIA ADDS LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES to summer curriculum. Dr. Harry Morgan Ayres, director of summer session, announces "unprecedented" number of courses dealing with Latin American countries, their civilization, history and languages. Also available, because of increasing demand for U.S. representatives in South America, will be additional courses in Spanish and Portuguese stenography. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

QUININE PRODUCTION BEGUN in Brooklyn plant of American Quinine Co., using South American cinchona bark. Production will be expanded as rapidly as plant equipment and facilities can be arranged, according to Charles N. Hollwedel, president. Officials say that quinine produced at this plant is selling at 74 cents per ounce, which is equal to 67 cents plus 7 cents war risk surcharge now charged for Dutch monopoly product. (N.Y. Times).

ARGENTINE EXPORTS DECREASE SLIGHTLY first two months of this year as compared with last year. Trade with United States heavily in favor of Argentina; U.S. buying 73,945,000 pesos of Argentine goods while supplying only 24,855,000 pesos worth of goods to Argentina. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

U.S. CULTURAL TIES IN BRAZIL, by movies, radio, magazines, books and American tourists, are tremendous, asserts Mme. Lourival Fontes, leading Brazilian poet and wife of Director of Press and Propaganda in Brazil. Achievements and freedom of democracy filling minds of Brazilians now. Cultural and political realms in U.S. have become important in Brazil, Mme. Fontes notes. (Air mail to N.Y. Times).

AXIS SHIPS IN BRAZIL. Twenty-eight Axis ships, in eight ports of Brazil, make preparations as if to sail. Diplomatic circles see no connection of ships' activities with arrival of Axis diplomats in Brazil. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

CUBAN MAIL SHIP TO BE LAUNCHED. New C-1 freighter, Agwiprince, to be turned over by the U.S. government to the Cuba Mail Line for service between New York and Mexico, will be launched Thursday, announces Edgar S. Bloom, president of Atlantic, Gulf and West Indies Steamship Lines. Observers say that entrance of up-to-date freighter into Mexican service is evidence of increasing commerce between U.S. and friends south of the Rio Grande. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

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U.S. Department of Agriculture
March 25, 1941

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 207

SENATE LIFTS ARGENTINE BEEF BAN by extraordinary parliamentary maneuver. Ban on possible purchase of 2,000,000 pounds of Argentine beef struck from Naval Appropriation bill after original vote had been recorded as favorable to ban. Senator Russell of Georgia claimed that he had voted for deleting ban but his vote had not been recorded correctly. Final action taken yesterday straightens out record with Russell's vote breaking tie. Fight expected in House over measure. (Special to N.Y. Times).

ARGENTINA WILL STAY OUT of war, Dr. Enrique de Gandía, Argentine historian and author, says upon arrival in New York from Buenos Aires. If U.S. enters conflict on side of Great Britain, author believes we can expect no military assistance from Argentina. Although majority in Argentina hopes for British victory, strong pro-Axis minority would enforce neutrality, author tells press. He will spend two months lecturing in U.S. as guest of State Department. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

MORE RUBBER SEEDLINGS FOR BRAZIL. Six U.S. Army B-18 bombers arrive in Belém, Brazil with cargo of seedling trees for use in experimental planting. Seedlings sent by U.S. Department of Agriculture which is cooperating with government of Brazil in attempt to develop rubber production on plantation scale. This is second lot to arrive by bomber in recent months. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

UNIFICATION OF LAWS among American republics to be studied at first conference of Inter-American Bar Association, now in session in Havana, Cuba. President Supervielle urges delegates from legal profession in 15 American republics to work for unity of laws. Lawyers of various countries must be versed in laws of their neighbors, Dr. José Manuel Cortina, Cuban Secretary of State, tells group. (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

CUBA APPLAUDS U.S. AID to Britain, through passage of lease-lend bill. Resolution unanimously adopted by Cuban Senate characterizing British Isles as "first line of defense of American continents." (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

MEXICAN STEEL PRODUCTION TO DOUBLE, according to Eduardo Suárez, Mexican Minister, in office of Consulate General in New York. Has been in U.S. since March 4 on special business mission, conferring with U.S. bankers and industrialists. Announces that steel mills in Monterrey, key industrial center located on Pan American Highway, are ready to purchase sufficient equipment from U.S. manufacturers to double production within few months. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

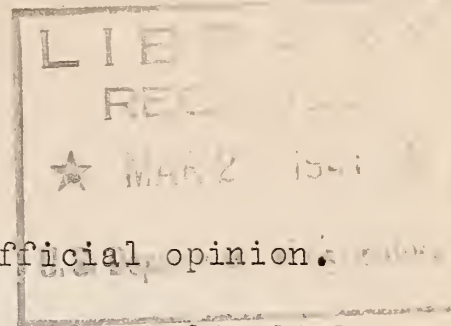
NEW CARIBBEAN EXERCISES BEGIN, with Marine Corps aircraft from Guantánamo, Cuba, participating in special landing maneuvers in which Navy also is said to be taking part near Puerto Rico. Several units of Atlantic fleet proceeding to Norfolk for overhauling after strenuous workout in Eastern Caribbean, sources at Puerto Rico say. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

GUATEMALAN AIRPORT IMPROVED. Government rushes remodelling of landing strip at La Aurora which will make it one of finest in Latin America. Port is located on plateau at 5,000 feet elevation. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
For Administrative Use



NOTE: Compiled from various sources. Not an expression of official opinion.

LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 208

March 26, 1941.

HEMISPHERIC DEFENSE MEASURES urged at first conference of Inter-American Bar Association, Havana, Cuba, by James W. Ryan, U.S. delegate. Mr. Ryan recommends resolution favoring coordination and joint measures for enforcement of laws dealing with espionage, improvement of air and road travel, radio and telegraph facilities and establishment of urgently needed industrial enterprises in South and Central America. Dr. Cosme de la Torriente, former Cuban Secretary of State, makes motion to create emergency consultative council composed of delegates from Americas for study of economic, political and social problems arising from defense measures. Council not to conflict with Pan American Foreign Ministers conference, Dr. Torriente says. Role of lawyers in hemispheric defense discussed by Dr. Luis Anderson, Costa Rican delegate. (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

ARGENTINA GREETES CARNEGIE PARTY. Seven members of Carnegie Endowment party, touring South American countries, arrive in Buenos Aires. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

FIRST BRAZILIAN MINISTER TO CANADA, João Alberto Lins de Barros, leaves en route to Ottawa March 31. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

NAZI WAR FILM IN CHILE. Film depicting Nazi campaigns in Norway, Low Countries and France, believed first showing in Americas, to be presented for Chilean officials. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

CAROL AND MME. LUPESCU TO RESIDE IN CHILE. Former King Carol of Rumania and Mme. Magda Lupescu and party receive permission to reside in Chile, the Foreign Ministry announces. Indications are that Carol applied to several countries in hope of receiving one favorable reply as sources close to Foreign Office of Argentina report that Carol and party requested permission to reside in Argentina. (Associated Press in N.Y. Times).

COSTA RICO AND PANAMA AGREE. Long-standing border controversy between Costa Rica and Panama settled and protocol embodying agreement soon to be signed and submitted to Legislatures of two countries, newspaper "La Tribuna" reports. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

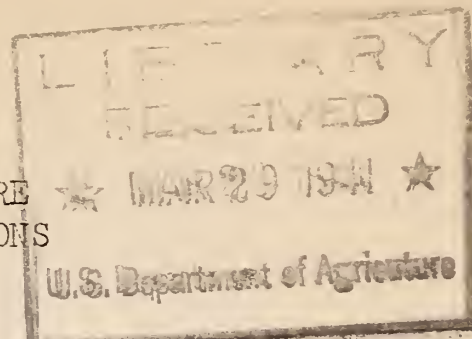
NICARAGUA GRATEFUL FOR CREDIT. President Anastasio Somoza sends telegram thanking President Roosevelt and Export-Import Bank of Washington for additional credit of \$2,000,000 for highway in Nicaragua. President Somoza says highway will do more good, politically and economically, for Atlantic Coast than any other project. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

AMERICANS VISIT PERU PLANTS. Members of National Research Council's industrial exploration tour of South American Countries inspect paper mill and sugar refinery 100 miles north of Lima. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 209

March 27, 1941.

ANOTHER BOND OF HEMISPHERIC COOPERATION established at first Inter-American Bar Association conference at Havana, Cuba. "Efforts should be toward coordination rather than unification of legislation of the Americas," James Oliver Murdock, Professor of International Law at Washington University, says. Permanent bodies for exchange of information in Americas suggested at conference. United States Attorney Robert H. Jackson to speak tomorrow. (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

PURCHASE OF ARGENTINE BEEF URGED by Acting Secretary of State Sumner Wells in closed session of Senate Appropriations Committee. In furtherance of "Good Neighbor" policy and promotion of hemispheric cooperation in defense, Wells asks Congress to lift restrictions from \$4,073,000,000 supplemental defense bill provision prohibiting purchase of food, clothing, and other products except in continental U.S. by Army and Navy. (Washington Post).

ARGENTINE-U.S. COMMERCIAL COMBINE reported planned by American businessmen and Argentine financial officials. Membership open to all importers and exporters in U.S. Organization will strive for increase in Argentine exports to U.S. and make possible importation of more American products in Argentina. Suggested name is "Argentine Export-Import Development Corporation." No plans yet official. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

ARGENTINA AND CHILE AGREE on Argentina's claims in Antarctic. Preliminary agreement signed by Isidoro Ruiz Moreno of Argentina and Julio Escudero, Chilean representative at special conference. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

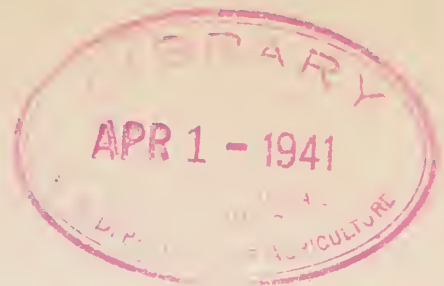
BOLIVIA-U.S. OIL DEAL PROTESTED by opponents of Bolivian Senate project for oil agreement with United States, in demonstration outside presidential palace. Senate project urges agreement with U.S. on grounds that Bolivian-United States relations have been damaged as result of questions arising from cancellation of Standard Oil concession in 1937. (Washington Post).

FLAX BOOM AIDS GROWERS IN PERU. Loss of world markets for cotton proves boon to Peruvian farmers now growing and shipping flax. Demand for flax so great that growers already have sold 1941-42 crop on forward contracts to U.S. buyers. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

VENEZUELAN-CANADIAN COMMERCIAL TREATY signed, Venezuelan authorities announce. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 210

March 28, 1941.

BROKEN TREATIES JUSTIFY LEND-LEASE policy as self-defense measure, Attorney General Robert H. Jackson states in speech read by U. S. Ambassador George S. Messersmith in Havana. Treaty violations by axis powers affected American rights of self defense under international law, he asserts. Economic cooperation among Americas in form of export control urged by Commodore Curtis Shears, U. S. Administrator of Export Control. Included in program of last meeting of conferences were speeches by Dr. Edmundo de Miranda Jordan of Brazil and Dr. Victor Vega, Minister of Justice in Cuba. (N. Y. Times)

COCOA PRODUCERS IN LATIN AMERICA near end of discussions with Great Britain on share of expanding \$32,000,000 United States cocoa market. Latin America's quota plan raises share of cocoa market from 30 percent to 56 percent. (Hemisphere)

TIME FLIES SOUTH. Time magazine to launch first air mail express edition of any U. S. publication to Latin America on May 5. 150,000 English-speaking people in Latin America will receive publication. Project welcomed by Under Secretary of State Sumner Welles and Vice President Henry A. Wallace. (Hemisphere)

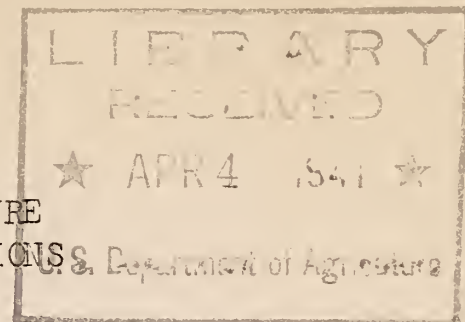
RING OF FIRE PHENOMENON clearly visible in Argentina. Annual eclipse of sun, showing edge of sun around face of moon, completely visible only in 180-mile band in part of Australia, New Zealand and southern South America. (N. Y. Herald Tribune)

JAPANESE CHERRY TREES GIVEN TO COSTA RICA. In strenuous effort to cultivate good will and increase trade in Latin America, Japanese Minister to Costa Rica presents 1,000 Japanese cherry trees to Costa Rican government. (Wireless to N. Y. Times)

CUBA TO TRAIN PILOTS. Defense drive plan to be completed in December includes training of 1,000 pilots to be ready for duty at moment's notice for defense of New World. Plan revealed by Major Joaquín Jorge, director of new army flying school in Cuba. (Gustavo Reno, Washington Times-Herald)

PANAMA BONDS OFFERED. Pursuant to effectiveness of debt settlement plan of Republic of Panama, Glore, Forgan & Co., and Hornblower & Weeks, head underwriting syndicate for \$4,000,000 bond issue. (N. Y. Herald Tribune)

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 211

March 29, 1941.

INTER-AMERICAN BANK REVIVAL. Congressional action authorizing United States participation in Inter-American Bank imminent. Establishment of institution, pending for almost a year, virtually assured. (Hemisphere).

ARGENTINE MEAT BAN REMOVED. Urgent pleas of Under Secretary of State Sumner Welles and defense officials heeded by Senate Appropriations Committee. Virtual prohibition against importation of Argentine canned beef and Australian wool struck off Army-Navy supply bill. (Washington Post).

NAZI FREIGHTER PLANS DASH from Brazil port as British cruiser Arendale awaits meeting at sea. German freighter Dresden requests Brazilian custom clearance and is expected to attempt to run British blockade. Other Italian and German ships busily loading as if to sail momentarily. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

NICARAGUA AIDS FARMERS. Dr. John Ashton, exchange Professor of Animal Industry at Texas A. & M. College, says government of Nicaragua will establish agricultural college and experiment station, modeled after similar institutions in U.S. Charles L. Luedtke, agricultural attaché of U.S. Embassy at Panama, arrives in Managua to study possibilities of increasing production of several agricultural commodities. Mr. Luedtke to visit all agricultural departments in Nicaragua. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

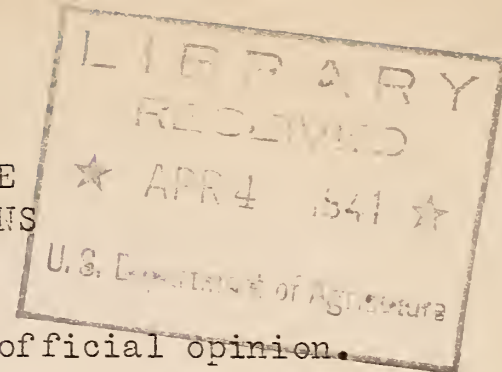
YUGOSLAV DEFIANCE PLEASES CHILEANS. Unusual interest displayed in Chile in Yugoslav developments. Bulletin boards of newspapers draw crowds and numerous publications applaud resistance to German aggression. Yugoslav colonies in Chile, Bolivia and Peru send joint statement to King Peter declaring willingness to cooperate in defense of democratic principles. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

MEXICAN STUDENTS BATTLE. Six persons slightly injured in fist fight at meeting of Mexican Student Congress at Puebla. Dispute between pro-Nazi and Communist sympathizers regarding delegates' credentials. Police and federal troops restore order. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

NAZI SHIPS IN PERU PORTS load cargos of cotton. German steamships Leipzig and Monserrate believed awaiting favorable opportunity to put to sea. Monserrate's cotton bales marked for Manzanillo, Mexico, where it is believed they will be reshipped aboard Japanese steamship to Vladivostok and rerouted to Germany over trans-Siberian railway. (N.Y. Herald Tribune)

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LATIN AMERICAN NEWS DIGEST

No. 212

March 31, 1941.

NAZI CONTROL WITHIN YEAR if England loses war, Henry A. Wallace, Vice President, warns Latins in nationwide broadcast before triennial convention of B'nai B'rith, Jewish service and fraternal organization, in Chicago. Wallace declares that "we of the Americas, North, South and Central, must band together to maintain sacred essence of democracy and religion." Speech rebroadcast in Spanish to Latin-American listeners. (Special to N.Y. Times).

CHILEAN NATIONAL COUNCIL members announced by Nelson Rockefeller, Coordinator of Commercial and Cultural Relations between American Republics. Dr. Guillermo del Pedregal, vice-president of Corporación de Fomento of Chile, to head council of six members. Fifth of 21 councils formed by Inter-American Development Commission in program for stimulation of trade between Americas. (N.Y. Times).

AXIS THREAT STRESSED by Nelson Rockefeller in speech to graduates of 16th session of National Police Academy. Axis control of single country in this continent would disrupt entire mechanism of hemispheric defense, he warns. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

TRADE ROUTES VITAL TO DEFENSE in Americas. Comdr. Robert C. Lee, executive vice-president of Moore-McCormick Lines, says maintenance of first class shipping services between U.S. and South America important to national defense. Comdr. Lee recently returned from business survey in Brazil, Uruguay and Argentina. (John Kelly, N.Y. Herald Tribune).

PAN AMERICAN HIGHWAY more than half-way completed and open to travel. Road map of projected Inter-American highway prepared by Public Roads Administration. Longest stretch open to travel is 1,100-mile-road from Laredo, Texas, to Mitla, Mexico. (N.Y. Herald Tribune).

THREE AXIS SHIPS SAIL. German Freighter Dresden and Italian freighters Ceara and Frisca sail from Brazilian ports. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

CUBA TO HONOR PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT. Cuban Senate to place portrait of President Roosevelt in Senate gallery on Pan American Day, April 14. Dr. Antonio Beruff Mendieta, president of upper house, announces that document declaring President Roosevelt "eminent citizen of America" will be delivered to U.S. Ambassador George S. Messersmith. (Wireless to N.Y. Times).

MEXICO AND ITALY NEGOTIATING on transfer to Mexico of several of ten Italian ships anchored in Mexican ports, Italian Minister Count Alberto Marchetti in Mexico City discloses. (N.Y. Times).

PERUVIAN STUDENT PROJECT URGED by Dr. Gustav Egloff, research director of Universal Oil Products Co. in lecture before Peruvian Engineering Society in Lima. Proposal would bring 250 to 300 Peruvian students to United States for two-year university courses at American Government's expense. Dr. Egloff to make suggestion to officials in Washington upon return. (Special Cable to N.Y. Times).

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MAR 21 1941

Index to Latin American News Digest

March 1-15, 1941

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Note: In each day's digest, items of general Latin American and Pan American interest appear first. These are followed by items dealing with specific countries and their relations with the United States. Each item from March 1-15, inclusive, is here listed under as many countries, products or other subjects as it touches. The items indexed are despatches published in the press.

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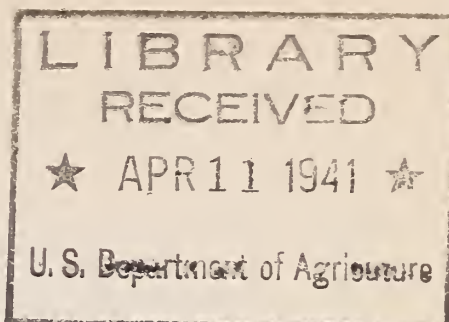
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Index to Latin American News Digest

March 16-31, 1941

Note: In each day's digest, items of general Latin American and Pan American interest appear first. These are followed by items dealing with specific countries and their relations with the United States. Each item from March 16-31, inclusive, is here listed under as many countries, products or other subjects as it touches. The items indexed are despatches published in the press.

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